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Stories of Love In 1k Apartment
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Translator: Anthey
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GUST COMIC

1Kアパートの恋

富士山ひょうた

GUST COMIC

Stories of love in 1K apartment

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富士山ひょうた

Youta Fujiyama

桜桃書房

Stories Of Love In 1k Apartment

by Fujiyama Hyota

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At best I've been living 18 years
but I've experienced various things in life
For example..
The gasping voices of men that can be heard from the room next door
Ahh
Ahh
Ahh
My childhood friend and roommate (male) ..
Confessed to me ..
I LIKE YOU

The 1k Apartment's Roommates

202

高城 夏
NATSU TAKAGI

河野永志
EISHI KOUNO

203

山室 景
KEI YAMAMURO

大友直道
NAOMICHI OHTOMO

wait a minute!
WAI...
BUT, I REALLY...
I THOUGHT THAT I SHOULD STOP MYSELF FROM SAYING THAT...
YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND IN COLLEGE!
!
MY GIRL-FRIEND.
WHAT, ARE YOU HALF ASLEEP OR SOMETHING?
Grab
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME, KEI!?
DON'T SAY COLD JOKES LIKE THAT!
WHAT
IS A GREAT SEX FRIEND...
ARE YOU AN ASSHOLE!?

PROFILE

富士山
HOUTA FUJIYAMA
ひょうた

■生年月日■
1月28日
■血液型■
A型
■所在地■
埼玉県
■好き■
ケモノとケェム
■嫌い■
虫と満員電車
■近況■
脳激減中（ヤバ

HONESTLY, SINCE WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL,
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED YOU
IT'S NOT A JOKE
I'M ALREADY GOING TO BREAK UP WITH MY CURRENT GIRLFRIEND
I THOUGHT I COULD GIVE UP BY GETTING A GIRL-FRIEND,
BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO
SO..
YOU CAN TAKE YOUR TIME...
JUST THINK ABOUT IT, OK..?
RELEASE
.....
GOOD-NIGHT
Creak

1Kアパートの恋

Stories of love in 1K apartment

富士山ひょうた

Just before high school graduation...

I was the one who brought up the idea of living together to Kei.

I had decided that I would leave my house and become a part-time employee in Tokyo.

So I took advantage of Kei, who was going to Tokyo for college.

Stories of love in 1K apartment

1K アパートの恋

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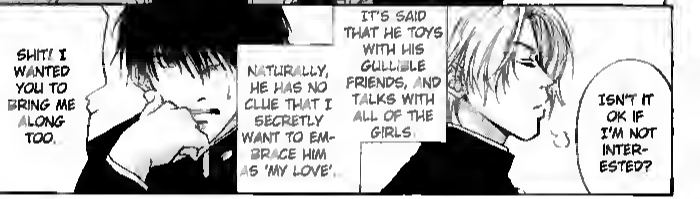
Presented by KYOUTA FUJIYAMA

And so, Kei decided on a 1K apartment
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, WASN'T THIS PLANNED OUT REALLY WELL?
I'M SO CLUELESS SOMETIMES
I've been told that living together is easy but now I wonder...

TN: APARTMENT WITH A «BUILT-IN KITCHEN, TYPICALLY MORE EXPENSIVE AN... SMALLER THAN A «SMALL APARTMENT» WHICH WOULD HAVE A KITCHEN SET

NATSU WAS THE FIRST PERSON I GOT ALONG WITH AFTER I CHANGED SCHOOLS AFTER I CHANGED SCHOOLS
KOUNO!
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU SAID YOU'RE NOT GOING TO AKEJOU'S PARTY?
YEAH
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
IT'S AKEJOU! YOU'RE NOT GOING? USUALLY.


ISN'T IT OK IF I'M NOT INTERESTED?
IT'S SAID THAT HE TOYS WITH HIS GULLIBLE FRIENDS, AND TALKS WITH ALL OF THE GIRLS.
NATURALLY, HE HAS NO CLUE THAT I SECRETLY WANT TO EMBRACE HIM AS 'MY LOVE'.
SHIT! I WANTED YOU TO BRING ME ALONG TOO.

UNTIL THAT CHRISTMAS DAY

As far as I know he's not someone that could be called homosexual (...or so I thought)
Kei has always been popular with the girls and there really wasn't a time that he didn't have a girl friend
WELL, I GUESS I SHOULD START GETTING READY FOR WORK.
Shake Shake
Push
That guy...
Does he like me because he sees me like this every day?
Splash Splash
.....
I DON'T GET IT!
Plop

The 1k Apartment's Love

*1k means 1 kitchen

NATSU, YOU SMOKE MENTHOLS, RIGHT?
MENTHOL
ON CHRISTMAS THE TWO OF US ENDED UP DRINKING TOGETHER IN THE 6 TATAMI* MAT ROOM THAT I LIVE IN

*a tatami is a straw mat

Wah!
PEN
!?
CLICK
NO.
I'M OK..
I-I'M SORRY,
DID I HIT YOU?
I'm leaving the door unlocked...
I FORGOT ABOUT THE REVELA-TION...
THAT OUR NEIGHBORS ARE GAY...
THAT'S RIGHT..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KOUNO, JEEZ!
SHUT UP!

I'M JUST WONDERING IF YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU WHEN YOU SMOKE THEM.
NO, THAT'S NOT WHY I'M ASKING.
YEAH
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD? THEY SAY IT WITHERS
WHAT DOES?
YOU WANNA TRY ONE? I'LL GIVE YA ONE
YOUR POTENCY
*Note where he is pointing
Chuckle
GA---N
WELL, IT'S JUST AN URBAN LEGEND..
NO WAY!!!
WOW, YOU GOT SERIOUS
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING?

I THINK THEY CALL THAT A MALE COUPLE.
HOW COULD A GUY LIKE SOMEONE WHO'S THE SAME AS HIM?
I WONDER IF THEY'RE "WOMEN-HATERS"..
Step
Step
Step
?
Creak
"Women-hater"?
Hmm..
!!
Ho-
Honestly..
ARE ARE YOU OK!?
BAM BAM
BAM

ABOUT HOW MANY TIMES A WEEK
DO YOU SPEND WITH A WOMAN, USUALLY?
Dead serious
KOUNO ...
HEY, NOW
DON'T LAUGH !!
YOU BASTARD
YOU... YOU REALLY ARE STUPID. THAT WAS GREAT!
touch
HMPH !!

Thunk
Thunk
Thunk
EVEN KEI SAID HE LIKED ME..
HEY!
ARE YOU HURT!?
COULD IT BE THAT HE'S THAT WAY, TOO..?
GRAB
!
IN THAT CASE, I..

BO
M

u uu- aa!

*Originally Urya! Which sounded funny
UWA !?
GRAB
HAH*!
SHOULDN'T WE SEE IF IT'S WILTED?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
ARE YOU DRUNK !?
KOUNO!
WAIT ...
YOU'RE GETTING TOO CLOSE TO ME.
AH, YOU'RE A VIRGIN?
LIKE I CAN HELP IT!?
YOU'RE ERECT
Smack
DON'T SAY THAT!!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU TOUCHED ME LIKE THAT.
SHUT UP!!

Hold on, calm down...
.....!!
ARE... YOU REALLY OK...?
THEN...
YOU LEFT FOR WORK IN SUCH A BAD CONDITION?
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
SHUTUP!
Really loud voice.
Pain
Ow...

HAH AND I'M STILL SMOKING THEM
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINK-ING?
click
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
IF YOU KNOW IT FEELS GOOD, THEN ISN'T IT OK?
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND
HUH?

Ouch !!
WHERE DID YOU GET HIT?
ON THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD?
THAT HURTS
WOW... YOU'RE GETTING A BIG LUMP, HERE...
I SAID DON'T TOUCH...
Huh...?
Touch
AREN'T YOU BEING TOO RECKLESS?
NOT JUST THAT, YOU'VE ALWAYS GOTTEN HURT EASILY SINCE LONG AGO...
Hey
Hey
Hey
Hey
Is it because of what you revealed yesterday...?
Rustle
THOUGH IT'S OK IF IT'S JUST SOMETHING LIKE THIS
YOU REALLY DON'T WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELF...
What's up with this change

GRIN
GET IT NOW?
.....
IF YOU STAY A VIRGIN FOREVER,
LIFE WON'T BE FUN, NATCHAN ...
THUD
U...
THIS IS WRONG
I WAS FIXED IN A STATE OF SELF-RESTRAINT FOR TOO FAR LONG.
HAH...
CONTRARY TO THE VOICE OF REASON, MY BODY RAN WILD FROM THE WARMTH OF NATSU'S TOUCH.

WHAT EXPRESSION SHOULD I MAKE WHEN HE'S TOUCHING MY HAIR...?
RIGID
DON'T BE TENSE LIKE THAT.
I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU AGAINST YOUR WILL.
!
.....
RE..
REALLY, I DON'T...!
.....
...I DON'T —?

KOU
..
HEY
...
AS NATSU GREW VAGITATED HE ALSO FELL VICTIM TO THE PLEASANT FEELINGS.
TOGETHER WE BEGAN TO LOSE OURSELVES IN THE SENSUOUS ACT
KU... U...
haa
THE POINT IS...
haa
haa
haa
haa
WE HAD SEX.

Although I don't think you'll do anything to me (even something small)...
Ah, Damn it! I'm sorry. SOMEONE makes me tense...
NEVER MIND
I'M GOING TO BED!
But I guess it can't be helped. Is it normal to touch someone's hair that way?
It's just... when you stroke my hair like that, I feel like it definitely has different motives...
BEYOND HIM... HOLLOW AS IN EARTH- W YR JUST TRUD KIN, BR WARMTHTUL AND FUL THAT TURNING HM O HIM MY ELDEST BEAT RAN AS MUCH BECAUSE HE WOULDN'T MAKE EMOTIONS BRING TO
How he should touch me... I don't know
Somehow...
The way it seems now is too serious
I'd rather him just attack me.
If he did that, then it would be like killing a hollow*-sounding avenger.
PLOP

I'M SO STUPID...
EVEN WITH THE TIMES WE'VE SPENT TOGETHER AT SCHOOL, HE'LL PROBABLY STILL BE DISGUSTED WITH ME...
turn
.....
UH...
EVEN IF I SAID IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS DRUNK, THIS...
I...
UM...
I'M SORRY, NATSU...
KOUNO...

ISN'T THIS ADDRESS THE GUY'S NEXT DOOR?
HM?
PizzaCat
GOTO-MO-KUN! PLEASE DELIVER THIS
OK!
PizzaCat
No. Well, I guess for real or something
I BET HIS BOYFRIEND'S COMING OVER AGAIN...
Vroom
WITH THIS AMOUNT OF FOOD...
HA HA HA...
IS THAT BUMP ON YOUR HEAD OK?
DING DONG!
IT'S PIZZA CAT!
YOU'RE WORKING A PART-TIME JOB IN DELIVERY, AREN'T YOU?
UM, HOW MUCH?
2845 YEN
HUH? YOU'RE THE NEIGHBOR
HIYA.
Good afternoon.
OK!

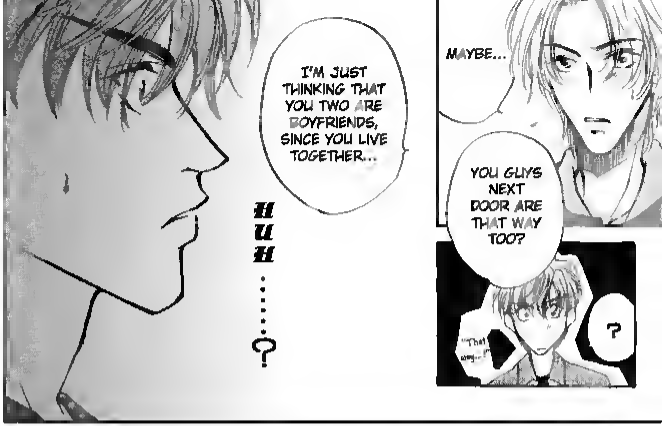
THAT JUST NOW... WAS SEX?
HEY-
IF I SAID THAT I WANTED TO DO IT AGAIN..
WELL ...
I GUESS SO...
SO YOU REALLY CAN DO IT EVEN IF YOU'RE A MALE COUPLE.
IT WAS, BUT...?
IS THAT OK?
I ASKED HIM 'WHY?' AND HE'D REPLY, 'BECAUSE IT FEELS GOOD'
JUST LIKE THAT, NATSU OPTIMISTICALLY ACCEPTED THE GUILT OF MALE COUPLE WITHOUT A SHRED OF REMORSE.
SINCE THAT DAY, WE HAVE COME TO THE POINT WHERE WE HAVE SEX LIKE IT'S AN EXTENSION OF A MAKE BELIEVE WRESTLING MATCH.

NATSU!
SORRY,
COME TAKE THIS FOR ME.
OK.
THIS?
YEAH.
DO YOU HAVE CHANGE?
HMM PROBABLY.
I ACTUALLY DON'T. NATSU, DO YOU HAVE SOME?
HERE
AH
HOW MUCH?
10 YEN
THANK YOU!
RIGHT,
THEN, 3045 YEN
WHAT —?
UM

Well, that's it.
Click
Beep
Playing back your messages.
This is Takagi!
Taking Notice Start Inc.
I just got back from skiing. Kimura's older brother said he'd drop me off, so I'm coming over after this.
I think I'll be arriving after 10:30, so don't go out after you've gotten home from work.
Time of call is 10:11
Beep
He probably wants to do it.
That's the only reason.
When I wanted him to know my feelings,
It wasn't so we would end up like this.
Has he arrived?
Screech
Slam
Is absolutely heart breaking
Things as they are, unrelated to the feelings of 'like'
The current state of just doing it?

I WAS JUST THINKING HOW WELL YOU TWO GOT ALONG...
Drop
WELL, KINDA...
WELL...
ACTUALLY, THE OTHER DAY... WE COULD KINDA HEAR YOUR VOICES...
THAT
I SEE, THEY DIDN'T KNOW THEIR SECRET LEAKED OUT...
Hmmm, you dropped the phone.
HUH...?
NATSU!
Wah
UM... BUT DON'T WORRY LIKE THAT.
I DON'T REALLY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH MALE COUPLES.
YEAH, YEAH!
PERHAPS ON FRIDAY OF LAST WEEK?
AH

steal
THAT BASTARD!
WHAT THE HELL IS 'KIMURA'S OLDER BROTHER IS DROPPING ME OFF' !!
swish-
ISN'T HE WITH A CHICK!?
DING DONG


I'M JUST THINKING THAT YOU TWO ARE BOYFRIENDS, SINCE YOU LIVE TOGETHER...
HUH.....?
MAYBE...
YOU GUYS NEXT DOOR ARE THAT WAY TOO?
"That's wrong..."
?

I SEE... THAT'S WHAT THEY THINK OF US...
HA HA HA...
IT'S NOT NORMAL...
Since this isn't a dorm...
WELL, I GUESS THEY WOULD. TWO MEN LIVING IN A 6 TATAMI* MAT ROOM...

*TN: Tatami is a straw mat

This is a space heater
YOUR ROOM IS REALLY WARM, KOUNO.
IT'S STILL REALLY COLD OUTSIDE.
Silence ~
.....
HEY! HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SLAM
YEAH.
WHEN YOU COME IN, DON'T FORGET TO LOCK THE DOOR.
HEY
?
Ewww
THIS LATE IN THE GAME, WHO AM I TO REFUSE?
IS IT OK IF I SMOKE ...?
?
AH!
I BROUGHT YA A LITTLE SOUVENIR.
RIGHT NOW, WE'RE JUST FRIENDS.
I HAVE NO RIGHT TO GET JEALOUS OR ANGRY
GO AHEAD AND SMOKE.
IT SEEMS STUPID.
ISN'T IT OK IF HE JUST WENT SKIING WITH A GIRL?

WHY? ISN'T IT OK!?
Click
WHAT!?
IT'S NOT OK! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO WAIT FO ME OUTSIDE?
WHAT THE HELL AM I LAUGHING AT...?
Shut
IT'S OK, JUST GO OUT-SIDE
HOW ABOUT A COFFEE HOUSE...
I TOLD YOU, THIS ISN'T ONLY MY ROOM!
I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU HADN'T CLEANED-
...NAO...?

THE HELL...
THEY'RE SKIS.
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THESE?
HAKUBA
HERE!
WHAT THE HELL'S THIS?
Jingle
No 1 person who doesn't give things (Author's Note: call phone: stray)
NO WAY, IDIOT!
LOVE THEM AND THINK OF ME.
WHO'S BACK YOU PREFER?
OK?
I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT THAT.

AH! WAIT...
WORK.
NAOMI-CHI!

WHY ARE YOU HERE...?

SORRY,
BUT I'M IN A HURRY.

LOOK

Step
Step
Step

BUT, AS EXPECTED, NATSU LIKES GIRLS
AND ME, WHO JUST ACCEPTS IT.
NATSU, WHO IS ADDICTED TO SEX.
RING
THAT'S ..
NOT IT...
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T WANT TO DO IT TODAY?
RING RING
HM? I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR.
HUH?
SHOOT (LIKE) SHOOT
A MOVIE?
I SEE.
ME? --YEAH I'M OFF TOMORROW--
YES, THIS IS KOUNO ..
HUH? .. AH, NAKAGASAN .. WHAT?

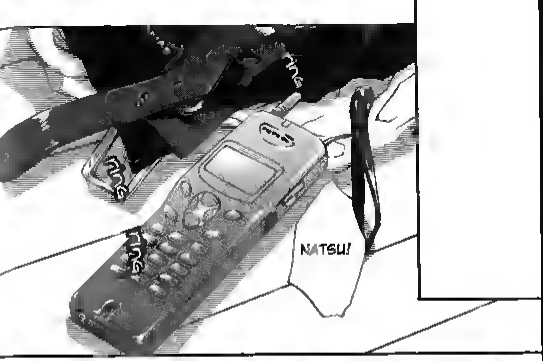
Didn't he say he was going to break up with her!?
If so, what was that? Is he just waiting in safety until I give him an answer!?
V
r
O
O
r
BAM
THAT ... LYING BAS- TARD! !!
WHO WAS THAT JUST NOW...?
A FRIEND?
Hiya! I'm back! Any orders?
Ah! Yeah, you...
PizzaCat
Put put put

The bath is getting cold!
Eishi ...!!
GLOMP
Hurry up!
UM, I'M SORRY, I..
NO, IT'S NOT THAT..
snicker
.....
WHAT WAS THAT, JUST NOW?
YOU SEEMED BOTHERED, SO I HELPED YA OUT.
WAS THAT SOMEONE FROM WORK?
IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE TRYING TO MAKE THEM GET THE WRONG IDEA.
OH? BUT I THOUGHT I SOUNDED LIKE A WOMAN.
WHO KNOWS ...
AH WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER, RIGHT?
.....

WASN'T HE SERIOUS WHEN HE SAID HE LIKED ME!?
Ding Dong!
It's Pizza cat!
Yes, thank you!
B.am
YOU CAN JUST DO WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE.
IF I'M NOT AROUND, YOU CAN BRING SOMEONE TO OUR ROOM AND DO STUFF.
I REALLY DON'T CARE
NAOMICHI.
ARE YOU MAD?
AT WHAT?
WELL... WHAT JUST HAP-PENED...
NOT REALLY.
Ring Ring
NAOMICHI? I...
KEI
WHAT?
YES.

I'VE BECOME REALLY GREEDY
NOW I JUST WANT NATSU TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ME THE SAME WAY I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM.
I CAN'T DO THIS
Damn it
...
...KOUNO? IT'S COLD...
SORRY. GO TO SLEEP
I WISH I HAD JUST GIVEN UP FROM THE BEGINNING
STOP

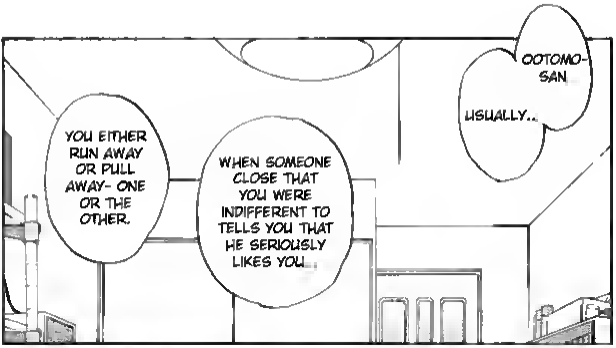
LOOK. .
THAT GIRL THAT I WAS WITH JUST NOW- IT WAS JUST TO BREAK UP WITH HER .
KEI
I'm just hearing an excuse. Stupid
I don't get it
I'M WORK-ING
BYE
WAIT... NAO...
Beep-
What the hell am I thinking...?
Why am I irritated!?
Beep
SHIT... I'M TURNING OFF MY PHONE!
MAN
I DON'T GET IT...
THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.
202
Hanino



EVEN WORSE THAT BEING IN LOVE AS "SEX FRIENDS" IS THE AWKWARD ANTICIPATION OF WAITING TO HEAR "WE'RE JUST FRIENDS"... I SHOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN INTO THIS SITUATION

UH....
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
BUT, THAT'S WHAT I SAY IT SOUNDS LIKE.
YOU'VE JUST FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THAT PERSON.
UM
Naturally, on the first meeting in a high school student's room, he brought beer.
JEAL OUS?
OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, DOESN'T THAT SOUND LIKE YOU'RE JEAL-OUS OR SOMETHING?
Why would I...!?
DJIM!
I SAID OR SOME-THING..
LOOK, NEIGHBOR...
OOTOMO.
YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT ....?
AND A GUY?
BUT HE'S MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND.

UM... ABOUT THE OTHER DAY, WELL...
THIS IS SHOUKO.
AH.
NATSU-KUN?
NATSU-KUN?
HUH? HELLO?
AH
UM...
I'M SORRY, BUT NATSU'S IN THE SHOWER RIGHT NOW.
I'LL GIVE HIM THE PHONE WHEN HE GETS OUT.
AH...
I SEE
EXCUSE ME
THIS IS PROBABLY THE GIRL HE WENT SKIING WITH
A CUTE, UPBEAT VOICE.
YEAH
YOU'RE NATSU-KUN'S FRIEND?
COULD YOU TELL HIM TO CALL ME AFTER HE GETS OUT?
JUST TELL HIM IT'S SHOUKO, HE'LL UNDERSTAND.
OK. LATER...
beep


OOTOMO-SAN
USUALLY...
WHEN SOMEONE CLOSE THAT YOU WERE INDIFFERENT TO TELLS YOU THAT HE SERIOUSLY LIKES YOU...
YOU EITHER RUN AWAY OR PULL AWAY- ONE OR THE OTHER.

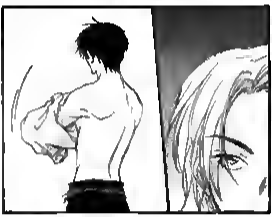
BUT YOU SAID WHEN HE CONFESSED, YOU FELT DISORIENTED...
DOESN'T THAT SHOW YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY AS HIM?
.....

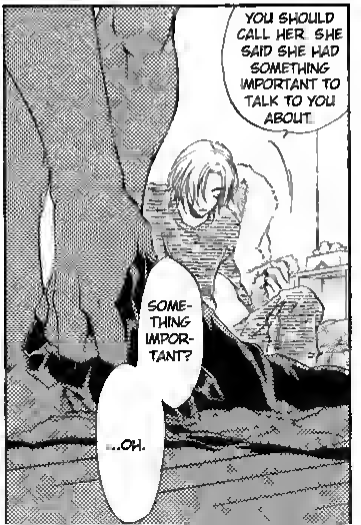
BUT...
IF I GIVE HIM THE OK, WON'T HE WANT TO HAVE SEX OR SOMETHING?
HOW AM I SUPPOSE TO KNOW THAT?
I...
I DON'T KNOW HOW I SHOULD ANSWER WHEN HE TELLS ME, "I LIKE YOU"...

SHE SAID HER NAME WAS SHOUKO

I'M SORRY, KOUNO. WHO WAS IT?
CLICK

THAT'S SOMEONE I WENT SKIING WITH THE OTHER DAY.
A FRIEND OF KIMURA'S OLDER BROTHER.
HM...
SHOUKO-SAN?




YOU SHOULD CALL HER. SHE SAID SHE HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
SOME-THING IMPOR-TANT?
...OH.

SHE'LL PROBABLY SAY THAT SHE WANTS TO GO OUT WITH YOU
STOP

NO MATTER WHAT ANSWER YOU GIVE HIM, OOTOMO-SAN...
I THINK YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY ANSWER HIM.
IT'S JUST ...
IF THERE'S UNRESOLVED FEELINGS, YOU WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO BE FRIENDS
IT WOULD PROBABLY END YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM
IS THAT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO RISK?
"I like you, Naomichi"
...THAT'S TRUE...
IT'S LIKE NOT TAKING HIM SERIOUSLY THAT WAY.

AND JUST HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
INTUITION
WELL...
ISN'T THAT GOOD?
ISN'T IT ENOUGH...?
NOW YOU CAN HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.
HUH?
WITH THIS, WE CAN GO BACK TO BEING JUST FRIENDS
WAIT A SECOND.
...INTERESTED IN GOING OUT WITH SHOUKO-SAN, OK?
I'M NOT REALLY...
HUH...?
SHOUKO-SAN IS CERTAINLY CUTE, BUT A GIRLFRIEND OR WHATNOT...
THEY'RE TROUBLESOME
BESIDES, I—

I didn't think it was disgusting when he confessed.
I actually felt a little happy.
But,
I can't suddenly just look at a childhood friend in that way.
But then again, it pissed me off that he was with his girlfriend.
I'M JUST BEING SELFISH, AREN'T I?
At any rate...
What should I say...?
FIRST OFF, I WONDER IF I SHOULD TRY CALLING HIM.
IF I TALK TO HIM WHILE LOOKING AT HIS FACE, IT'LL TAKE A LITTLE COURAGE
HUH?
OH YEAH. I TURNED OFF MY PHONE A BIT AGO
BEEP
RING
RING
WHA!

HE DOESN'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT THE FACT THAT WE'RE BOTH MALES! HE CAN HAVE SEX WITH ME WHENEVER HE FEELS LIKE DOING IT!
SAYING HE'S GOT ME
I'VE GOT YOU, SO I DON'T REALLY WANT ONE
BEST OF ALL, I'M EASY!!
Marlboro
NONE OF THAT IS TROUBLE SOME!
WHA? WHAT THE HELL!?
OUCH!
bam
whoo-
!?
sssh
WHAT ARE YOU
THAT HURTS!

HEY NOW... A PRANK CALL?
WHAT THE HELL, AT THIS IMPORTANT TIME...
Click
Beep
HELLO?
T T T
NAO-MICHI!!
BAM!
AH?
HUH...?
WHY...?
.....

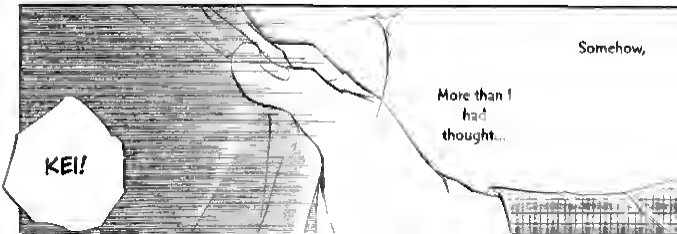
KOUNO ...?
!!
CRA-
SH
SPLATTER
UWAAA!
NOTHING THAT YOU DO IS NORMAL
IF IT WEREN'T TROUBLESOME, WOULD YOU MAKE "SHOUKO"-SAN YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
YOU BASTARD
HUH?

He
THANK GOODNESS.
YOU CAME HOME
...WHAT'S UP WITH THAT...?
UM...
YOU DIDN'T COME HOME, AND YOU DIDN'T CALL...
He thought Haruhiko wasn't going to come home.
I WAS A BIT WORRIED.
JEEZ, I'M NOT A KID.
YOUR FACE...
WHAT HAPPENED?
HUH? OH, THIS...?
SHE KINDA HIT ME, AFTER THAT...
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND!?
WHY—?

KNOWING UNREQUITED LOVE,
AND WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO SPREAD YOUR LEGS FOR SOMEONE...
IT'S SOMETHING SOMEONE LIKE YOU JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, IS IT!?
WA... WAIT!
YOU'RE SAYING THAT...
SHUT UP! DON TOUCH ME!
MIK

I TOLD HER I WAS BREAKING UP WITH HER BECAUSE I LIKED YOU...
AND SHE SAID, "SO YOU'RE A HOMO!" AND BAM!
THUMP

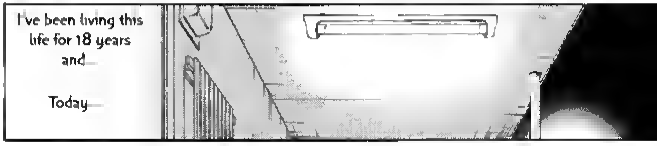
What should I do?
What should I do?
IT'S OK!
Ah
ARE YOU STUPID!?
WITH THAT SORT OF STUPID HONESTY
This is bad
I'VE DECIDED TO LIVE HONESTLY WITH MY EMOTIONS...
COME ON!
LET'S GO IN ALREADY


Somehow,
More than I had thought...
KEI!

I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE!!
HEY...
LISTEN TO ME!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU ANYMORE...
KOU...
GET OUT!
Slam
...
KOUNO
HEY!
WHAM
SHUT UP AND DIE!
POUND
I HATE BASTARDS LIKE YOU!!
JUST LISTEN FOR A MOMENT TO WHAT OTHERS HAVE TO SAY!

IT SEEMS ..
I LIKE YOU..
IT'S JUST THAT...
I DON'T REALLY KNOW IF MY "LIKE" AND YOUR "LIKE" ARE THE SAME...
THEY'RE PROBABLY DIFFERENT, I THINK...
BUT, WITH SEX AND THE LIKE... I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THAT YET
ANY-HOW...
UM ...
IS IT OK,
LIKE THIS?

"ME? I'M KOUNO... KOUNO EISHI."
"KOUNO? I'M TAKAGI NATSU. NATSU LIKE THE SEASON."
Hurt himself
SHIT
"Natsu means summer"
"NATSU"? INTERESTING NAME. IT'S LIKE A GIRL'S
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
DOES THIS FACE LOOK LIKE A GIRL'S?
HUH?
YOU'RE LIVING ALONE NOW? SHOW ME YOUR PLACE!
NAH... MY ROOM'S TOO DIRTY AND CLUTTERED WITH BOXES...
I'LL HELP YA CLEAN IT.
IN THE BEGINNING, I WAS CHARMED BY HIS SMILE.
THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER INCREASED, AND I GOT TO KNOW NATSU LITTLE BY LITTLE...



I started dating a guy who was my childhood friend.

For now, at least...

DO YOU REALLY THINK MY FACE LOOKS LIKE A GIRL'S ?
BUT YOU KNOW KOUNO..
ISN'T THAT OK? IT'S POPULAR.
I'D MUCH RATHER HAVE A FACE LIKE YOURS
Not happy about Natsu's popularity
LATER ON I REALIZED THAT, LITTLE BY LITTLE, MY FEELINGS WERE BEING LAYERED ON
I REALIZED THAT I FELL IN LOVE WITH TAKAGI NATSU

CRYING HYSTERICALLY LIKE THAT KICKING NATSU OUT..
I'M SUCH A FOOL
JUST WHEN I WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE OKAY, I GOT MAD
MORE-OVER, I'M SITTING HERE BARE-FOOT
WHAT A SHAME ...
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff

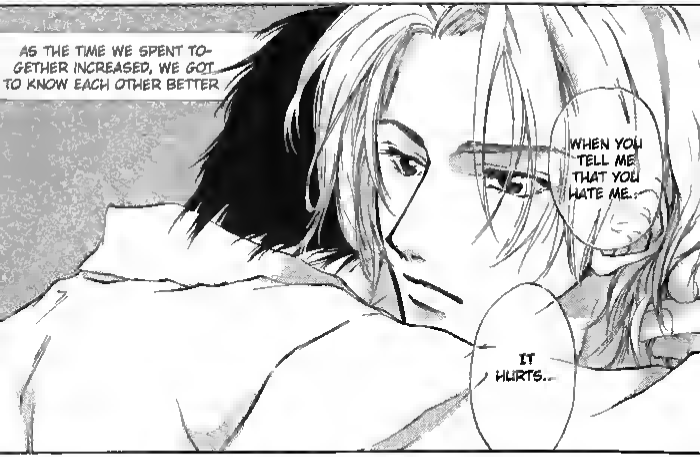
WHOOSH
!
Cough
WHAT... ARE YOU DOING?
DIDN'T YOU GO HOME...?
I JUST WENT TO BUY CIGA-RETTES.
cough
IDIOT!
YOU SHOULDN'T SIT THERE WHEN YOU'RE THAT LIGHTLY DRESSED!!
WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO KICKED ME OUT LIKE THIS?
!!
FINE!
TAKE YOUR JACKET AND BAG AND WHATEVER ELSE IS YOURS!

I'LL BRING THEM TO YOU!
slam

*the door

I...
I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND BECAUSE I DO IT WITH YOU...
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING OTHER THAN THAT.

ALWAYS ..
WE WERE NORMAL FRIENDS
LAUGHING WHILE TALKING ABOUT TRIVIAL THINGS... THAT KIND OF FRIEND
I THOUGHT I COULD GET YOU TO THINK ABOUT ME IN THAT WAY TOO...
THAT'S WHAT I MEANT BY NOT HAVING ANYONE ELSE
JUST THAT...
BUT, SINCE THAT DAY...
I USED THE EXCUSE "BECAUSE WE'VE DONE IT" LIKE A SIMPLE FOOL...
I'M REALLY NOT THAT COLD HEARTED.
DESPITE ALL REASON, I REALLY DO LIKE YOU.



EVEN IN NATSU... THE FEELINGS WERE BUILT UP

WE'RE IN LOVE

WE'RE IN LOVE

EVEN THOUGH I SAID IT WAS AN URBAN LEGEND?
WHAT?
SHOULDN'T I TAKE PRECAUTIONS?
SO IT'S JUST THAT, HUH...
YEAH.
YOU REALLY QUIT SMOKING MENTHOLS?
DO THEY REALLY TASTE DIFFERENT?
WANNA TRY ONE?
WHEN I SMOKED MENTHOLS, YOU NEVER TRIED IT EVEN ONCE!
cough
HERE.
HEH
OF COURSE YOU'D BELIEVE THAT THEY'RE DIFFERENT.
1Kアパートの恋
END

High school 3rd year September
A year has passed since Kouno transferred into this school.
SUMMER VACATION IS ENDING,
AND I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME TO CHOOSE WHICH COLLEGE TO AIM FOR.
After our guidance appointment Konou and I are now in separate classes
3-A
IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY TO TELL YOU THIS NOW,
BUT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT IS APPROACHING
WE MUSTN'T LET OUR ATTENTION SLIP.
Though I say that—
OUR LOVEY-DOVEY RELATIONSHIP HASN'T CHANGED.
A guy who is letting his attention slip more and more.
TODAY, IT'S ALL OVER I WONDER IF KOUNO HAS A JOB. .?
HOPEFULLY WE'LL STILL BE ABLE TO PLAY FOR A BIT THOUGH
HUH?
3-D
VACATION?

The Ghost that Resides in Your Heart

Kimi no mune ni sumu Bourei

First Half

HE'S BEEN OFF SINCE THE NEW SEMESTER STARTED. I WONDER WHAT HE'S BEEN UP TO.
HE SEEMED HEALTHY WHEN I SAW HIM THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY...
I'VE SUDDENLY BEEN DRAWN TO HIS APARTMENT...
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
YES...?
Click
AH!
IT'S ME!
WHAT AM I DOING?
SINCE I HEARD YOU WERE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL TODAY.
IS THAT... ALCOHOL ON YOUR BREATH...?
Surprise
EH...
NATSU...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

Ding Dong
HE KINDA BURST IN HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
getting to sleep is a calm moderation.
...AND DECIDED THAT WE SHOULD DRINK WHILE WE TALKED...
OH! Let's go buy some alcohol at the convenience store!
WOW
I have school tomorrow.
THIS MORNING!?
...ACTUALLY, I WAS UP DRINKING UNTIL THIS MORNING...
WITH THAT GUY NEXT DOOR AGAIN?
WELL, YEAH.
?
WELL,
FOR THE TIME BEING, DRINK SOME WATER.
THERE'S STILL ALCOHOL IN YOUR SYSTEM, ISN'T THERE?
ACTUALLY, IT'S A FIRST ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE GETTING PRETTY CLOSE TO SOMEONE...
THAT'S RARE.
FOR SOME REASON OR ANOTHER...
GUESS SO...

MOUTH-TO-MOUTH?
HUH!?
WAIT
?
YEAH.
THANKS...
I TOOK THE TROUBLE TO GET IT.
AND I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY THIS.
WHAT TROUBLE DID YOU GO THROUGH TO GET IT!?
IT'S OK!
I CAN DO IT MYSELF...!
N.....
SWALLOW

.....
THE WATER IS LUKE-WARM..
THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.
MINGLING SPIT LIKE THAT MAKES ME SICK
WHA...
YOU ASS! WHEN FACING YOUR BELOVED NATSU-SAMA...!!
AGH! WAIT
IT WAS A LIE! A LIE!!
STOP...
NATSU...
WAIT...
STOP IT!!

KOUNO ...?
AH...
SORRY ...
?
?
Slam
IT SEEMS THE ALCOHOL'S BEGINNING TO WEAR OFF A BIT...
I'M GOING TO GO TAKE A SHOWER.
.....

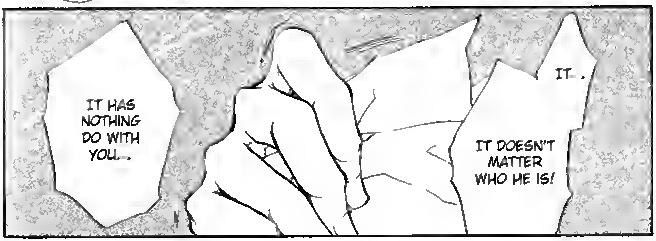
HM?
KOUNO HAS DEFINITELY GOTTEN A STRONGER TOLERANCE FOR ALCOHOL THESE PAST FEW MONTHS.
Mutter
Mutter
Mutter
Clatter
TWO PEOPLE DRANK ALL OF THIS ALONE?
JEEZ
Clink Clink
WHAT'S THIS?
A LETTER?
FROM GUNMA... THAT GUY FROM KOUNO'S FAMILY?
WHY DID HE SPECIFI-CALLY .
Kouno Eishi
Eishi-sama
SOEDA
YUUICHI ...?

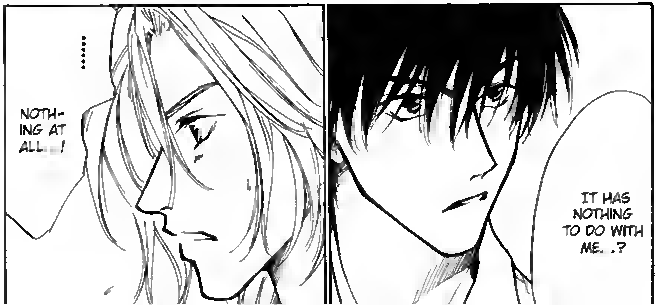
?
I WONDER IF IT'S SOMEONE FROM HIS LAST SCHOOL...
Kaoru Eda-sama
.....
Clatter
Thud

It has been quite a while.
Since I didn't know that you had changed schools, my letters went to your former address.
Are you doing well?
A year has passed since then.
Finally, I feel like I can calmly reflect on what happened that time.
I had always thought you would get in touch with me after you changed schools, but.
I found out from the person I talked to at your house, so I lost my courage, and wasn't able to sort out my feelings.
It took me until now to do this.
I need to apologize to you.
If possible, I think I want to talk to you in person.

if that's ok,
please contact me
THAT'S
...
NATSU
...
!!
CRASH!!

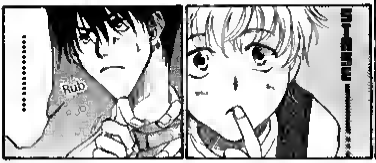
WHAT ARE YOU DOING,
LOOKING AT MY LETTER!?
KOUNO
WHO'S SOEDA YUUICHI?


IT HAS NOTHING DO WITH YOU...
IT...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO HE IS!


.....
NOTH-ING AT ALL...!
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...?

IT REALLY DOESN'T?
IT DOESN'T...
IT DOESN'T?
SORRY...
I'M GOING HOME FOR TODAY.
...THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO.
iT DOESN'T!!

WHAT...
WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THAT ATTITUDE!?
WHAM
WHAT THE HELL WAS "IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU"!?
AREN'T WE DATING!?
IF WE ARE, THEN SHOULDN'T WE TALK TO EACH OTHER ABOUT EVERY-THING!?
WHO THE HELL DOES HE THINK I AM?
SIGH



That is—

I didn't think it was anything important—

It wasn't because I was worried.
Sigh
His parent's health, their second marriage or maybe even the transfer...
WHAT'S SO INEXCUSABLE ABOUT THIS
Changing schools living alone
WHAT? NATSU-CHAN'S STILL IN THE BATH!?
Knock
I thought that whenever something was bothering him, he'd tell me.
I thought the past didn't matter
HEY NATCHAN,
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN THERE!?
Knock
Knock
Knock
* The Takagi household consists of 3 siblings, Yui, Natsu, and Sayaka
I'M WORRIED!
I REALLY AM!!
It has nothing to do with you...!
SINCE IT MADE HIM REACT THAT WAY...
BUT

EHH!?
I'M INSANELY WORRIED!!
IF YOU'RE GETTING OUT, SAY THAT YOU'RE GETTING OUT, STUPID!
Even then .
I knew that Kouno had had sexual experiences prior to the ones with me
So that means that there has to be someone he did it with first right?
.....
SPINNING
NO MATTER HOW I THINK ABOUT IT, IT MUST BE A GUY FROM HIS PAST SCHOOL..
MAYBE THE GUY WHO WROTE THAT LETTER ?
THEN WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT WANTING TO MEET IN PERSON?
HE CAN'T REALLY THINK THEY'D GET BACK TOGETHER... WELL, KOUNO WOULDN'T DO THAT SORT OF THING...
NO... BUT SINCE HE WAS HIS FIRST PARTNER, HE MIGHT DO IT FOR OLD TIMES SAKE...

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT IT NEGATIVELY!
ISN'T IT OK, NO MATTER WHAT KOUKO'S PAST WAS!?
I DON'T AGREE WITH THIS WAY OF DOING THINGS!!
Man!!
AHHH!
ISN'T "NOW" WHAT'S IMPORTANT!?
THAT'S IT.
WITH SOMETHING THIS TRIFLING
I SHOULDN'T RUIN WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE
FOR THE TIME BEING
I SHOULD MAKE UP WITH HIM.

Ring
Ring
Ring
TAKAGI!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
IF YOU DON'T HURRY UP AND GET CHANGED, YOU WON'T BE READY FOR PE CLASS.
AH,
I'M GOING TO GO TO WHERE KOUNO IS FOR A BIT.
AGAIN!?
DID YOU FORGET YOUR GYM CLOTHES?
HEH!
I GOTTA ASK HIM ON A DATE.
Like ya
Stalk
Do it yourself
They do seem pretty way-away...
A date?

Open.
AS AN APOLOGY, I'LL ASK HIM OUT TO A MOVIE!
LET'S DO THIS!!
FIRST AND FOREMOST, I'LL APOLOGIZE ABOUT THE LETTER

Clench
.....
NATSU. .
YO.
UM.. SORRY
FOR LOOKING AT THAT LETTER . .
OH..
KOUNO.
NO .
I TOO..
SORRY
HEY HEY
DON'T JUST SIT THERE QUIETLY
.....
WELL ....
WELL THEN
AS AN APOLOGY
MAYBE A MOVIE
AM... I LOSING OUT!?

ARE YOU OK?
COULD IT BE...
YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO GET MUCH SLEEP...
Sniff
KOUNO...?
YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD...
HUH?
WHAT...?
ARE YOU AVOIDING ME...?
DON'T ...
...BE SO CLINGY IN THE CLASSROOM.

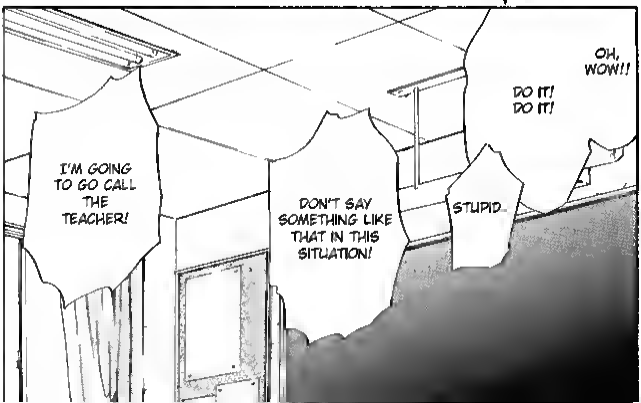
I DON'T WANT IT TO BE EXPOSED LIKE THIS... AGAIN...
I HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN, UP UNTIL NOW...
!
"AGAIN" ...?
OF COURSE...
THAT SOED[illegible] GUY...
.....
SOMETHING HAPPENED, DIDN'T IT?
I thought the past didn't matter.
SEEING THE LETTER MADE YOU REMEMBER?
STOP IT... WE'RE IN A CLASS-ROOM...!
But this...

Just because of the things that he said not to worry about
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT!?
DO YOU WANT TO HIDE IT?
IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE AMAZED HE ACTUALLY WROTE IT?
I really began to love Kouno.
OR IS IT THAT YOU WANT ME TO WORRY?
NATSU...
BANG
Because of that,
NATSU...!!
WHICH IS IT?
If I said I wasn't worried...

It would be a huge lie.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT SOEDA YUIICHI-KUN
WAS YOUR FORMER LOVER?
SMACK
!?
DON'T ASK QUESTIONS LIKE THAT!!
DON'T..

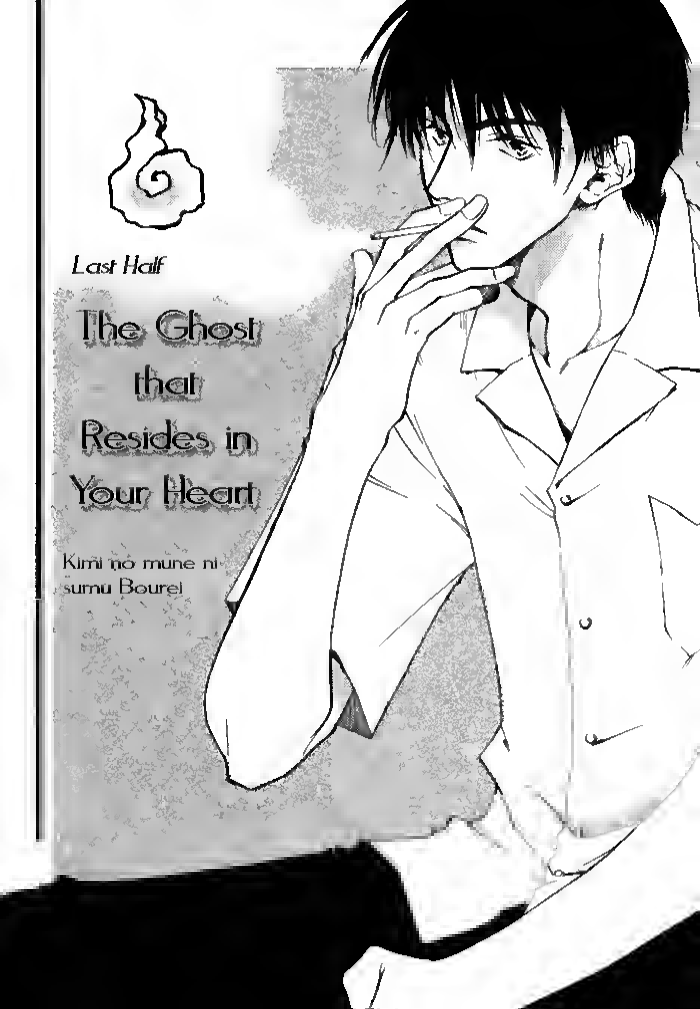
SAD
AHH!
clatter
UGH
SORRY...
FOR ASKING...!

AGH...
WAIT!
YOU GUYS
STOP
THUD
AHH!!


OH, WOW!!
DO IT! DO IT!
I'M GOING TO GO CALL THE TEACHER!
DON'T SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN THIS SITUATION!
STUPID

HEY, STOP IT!!
KOUNO!
TAKASI!!
.....
STUPID FOOL
STOP FIGHTING, YOU GUYS. .
AH—?

I.
I HATE GUYS LIKE YOU!!


Last Half
The Ghost that Resides in Your Heart
Kimi no mune ni sumu Bourei

THERE!
AS GOOD AS NEW!
PHEW...
EVEN IF THIS SCOOTER IS A BIT OF A STRETCH, IT'S PART OF A GOOD JOB...
I GUESS IT REALLY WAS GOOD THAT THIS HAS BEEN TROUBLING ME
FLASH
FLASH
STEP STEP STEP STEP
.....
STEP STEP STEP STEP

Step
Step
Step
Step
Step
Step
Step
YAP
YAP
YAP
.....?
WHAT?
KOUNO!
WAIT!
NATSU.
WE HAVEN'T EVEN FINISHED TALKING YET.
"WHAT?"
SO WE SHOULD PROPERLY...

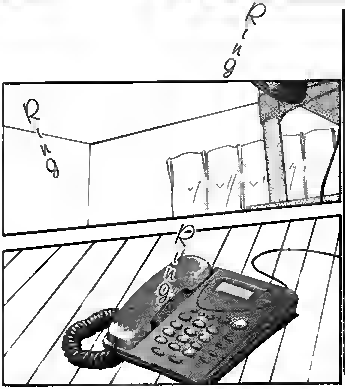
SORRY, BUT...
I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU ANYMORE TODAY.
SEE Y/...
SLAM

SO EVEN YOU TWO HAVE FIGHTS
.....
A FIGHT?
HEY ..
YOU WERE DRINKING WITH KOUNO THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
WAS HE ACTING ANY DIFFER-ENTLY?
HUH? ACTING DIFFER-ENTLY?
IS IT UNUSUAL FOR HIM TO DRINK UNTIL MORNING?
HMM, I WONDER IF HE WAS..
HE'S NEVER WANTED TO DRINK TOO MUCH BEFORE.
I SEE...
That's it!
AH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

Ootomo-san's boyfriend is good, isn't he...
He's strong
I'm strong in fights too, aren't I?
That's not what I meant
WHEN IT GOT CLOSE TO DAWN,
MY MEMORIES WERE GETTING PRETTY HAZY, BUT...
I think that could be good and bad, though.
Not even hiding his love for you, Ootomo-san.
Confessing his feelings to his friend, knowing he could be hated...
Breaking up with the girl he was dating...
It would be good.
If I could be like that...

Without being afraid.
Et-chan...?
I wish I could just talk about everything
Budweiser
WHILE I HAD NO CLUE, KOUNO WAS MAKING A CRY FOR HELP...
OR HE WAS CONFUSED ABOUT HOW TO SAY IT...
MAYBE HE WAS THINKING ABOUT HOW TO TALK TO ME...
Beep
I WONDER IF THAT WAS ABOUT THE LETTER...
Beep

I DIDN'T LISTEN TO HIM ABOUT SO MANY THINGS...
DESPITE THAT I ARBITRARILY LOOKED AT THAT LETTER...


Ring
Ring
Ring

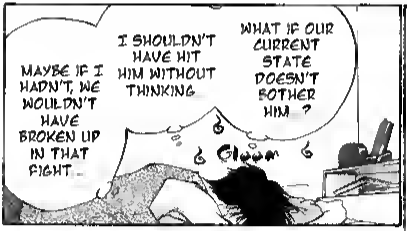
THAT'S WHY IT'S GOTTEN THIS BAD
Beep
HE CAN'T HELP BUT HATE ME...
Beep

Hello I'm not home right now
Ring
BAAAA

Beep

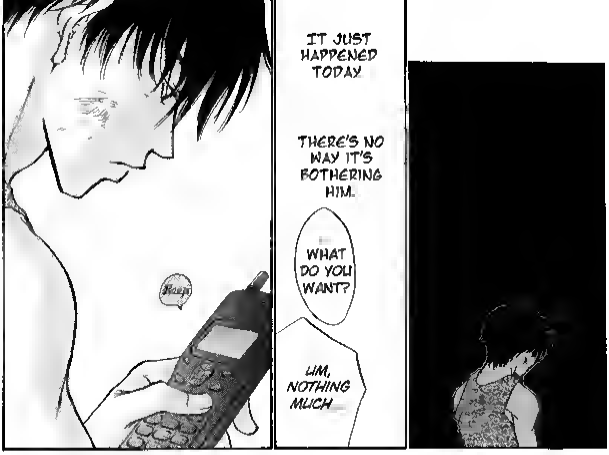
Beep
This is Takagi.
Shut
If you decide you'll talk to me please call
Until then I won't bother you by calling
Um Today No about the letter yesterday
I'm sorry
I really am
Well good night
Click

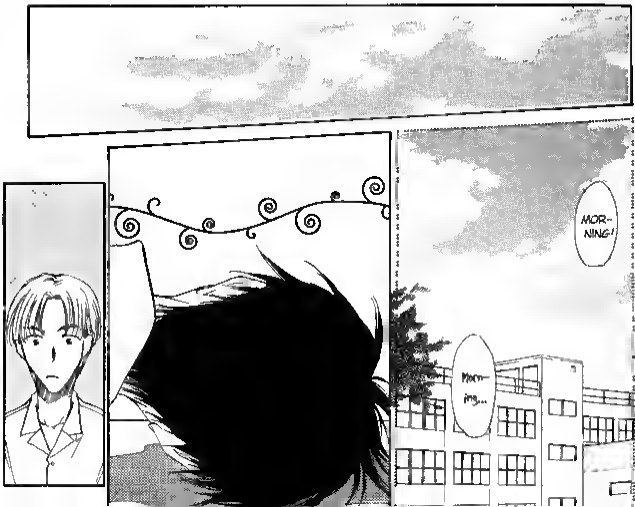
10:43 PM
Beep


MAYBE IF I HADN'T, WE WOULDN'T HAVE BROKEN UP IN THAT FIGHT...
I SHOULDN'T HAVE HIT HIM WITHOUT THINKING...
WHAT IF OUR CURRENT STATE DOESN'T BOTHER HIM...?
Clean

I WONDER IF IT'S BOTHERING HIM...

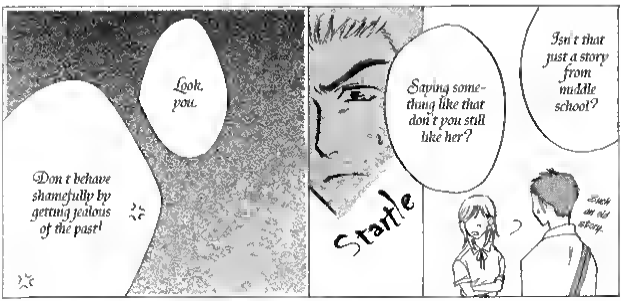
HELLO!? KOU...
Ring
AH, TAKAGI? IT'S ME, SUZUKI...
BUT NOW, ALL I CAN DO IS WAIT...


IT JUST HAPPENED TODAY.
THERE'S NO WAY IT'S BOTHERING HIM.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
UM, NOTHING MUCH...


MOR-NING!
Morn-ing...

HEY, TAKAGI...
ARE YOU STILL DEPRESSED?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GET OVER IT?
SHUT UP...
IT'S ALREADY BEEN THREE DAYS...
HUH?
MAN,
I BET I'VE BEEN REJECTED...
Morning

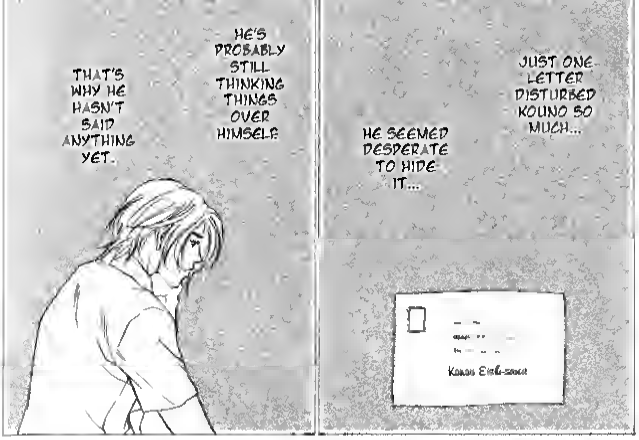
Huh? Suzuki-kun?
It really is you, Suzuki-kun! It's been a while!
Huh? Oh!
YESTERDAY, MY GIRLFRIEND AND I WERE TAKING A WALK TOGETHER...
Rejected!
...WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU...?
You've been staring at nothing since a little while ago... You're thinking about that girl, aren't you!?
Hey! Are you even listening to me!?
Huh?
AND, WELL... I KNOW IT WAS MY FAULT FOR THINKING A LITTLE ABOUT MY EX...
That reminds me... didn't you say she was the one that broke up with you?
Well, that's true but
WE JUST HAPPENED TO RUN INTO THE GIRL I DATED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
I INTRODUCED HER TO MY CURRENT GIRLFRIEND...
THEY TALKED FOR A BIT, AND THEN WE PARTED

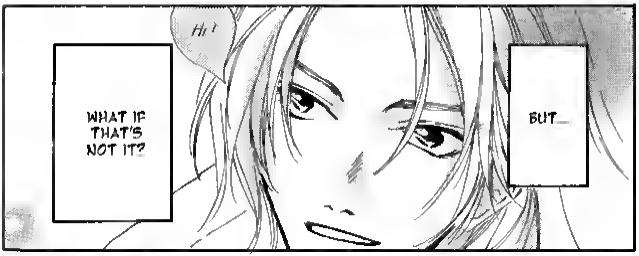

Look, you.
Don't behave shamefully by getting jealous of the past!
Saying something like that don't you still like her?
Isn't that just a story from middle school?
Startle
Touch me not story.

It's your girlfriend's fault, but it's also your fault.
YOU'RE SO STUPID!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
FOR SOME REASON, IT GOT AWKWARD AFTER THAT...

Tak
Tak
YOU HAVE TO SAY THINGS A LITTLE MORE GENTLY TO GIRLFRIENDS, EVEN IF IT'S THE TRUTH!
IT'S NOT LIKE IT MAKES ME HAPPY!!
BUT, JUST TRY PUTTING YOURSELF IN HER SHOES!
YOU MUST REGRET IT SINCE YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS!

SEEMS THAT WAY.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIM, TOO?
BUT, I...
HUH?
...KINDA UNDERSTAND WHAT YOUR GIRLFRIEND IS FEELING.
I REALLY UNDER-STAND
IT WAS THAT WAY WHEN WE FOUGHT, TOO.
Hey, Kawa!


THAT'S WHY HE HASN'T SAID ANYTHING YET.
HE'S PROBABLY STILL THINKING THINGS OVER HIMSELF
HE SEEMED DESPERATE TO HIDE IT...
JUST ONE LETTER DISTURBED KOUNO SO MUCH...
Kouno Emi-sama


Hi!
WHAT IF THAT'S NOT IT?
BUT...

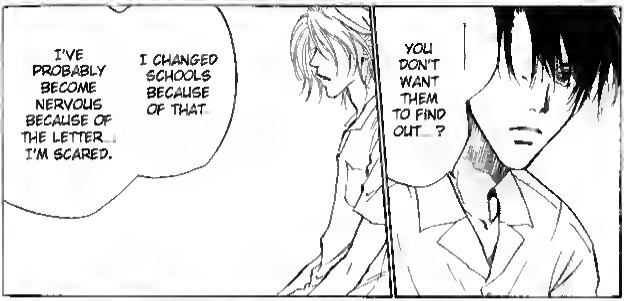
SERIOUSLY
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO IF THINGS STAY LIKE THIS...?
Ayaka-san!
AND WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE GUY WHO WROTE THAT LETTER ALL ALONG?
WHAT IF NOW, HE'S REALLY STARTED TO HATE ME...
WHAT IF IT'S NOT JUST THE PAST TO KOUNO?

After School
AH...
NO CONTACT TODAY, EITHER...?
See ya!
Bye bye!
HMM?
THERE'S A MES-SAGE
Thud
CLATTER
HUH!?
Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
Hey, what's with Takagi...?

BAM
HAVE ...
...YOU BEEN WAITING ...?
AH—
.....

NOT REALLY...
...YOU RAN UP HERE?
.....
YEAH... WELL...
I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT HERE BY PHONE...
NAH.
I WAS CARRYING IT...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...

I TOLD MYSELF, "THEY'LL FIND OUT ABOUT US."
SO I CALLED YOU.
I WAS AFRAID OF MEETING YOU IN FRONT OF EVERYONE...


I'VE PROBABLY BECOME NERVOUS BECAUSE OF THE LETTER... I'M SCARED.
I CHANGED SCHOOLS BECAUSE OF THAT.
YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO FIND OUT...?

... HE WAS ONE GRADE ABOVE ME AT MY LAST SCHOOL.
YEAH.
THE ONE WHO WROTE THE LETTER...?
SO YOU GOT FOUND OUT WITH THE GUY YOU WERE DATING?

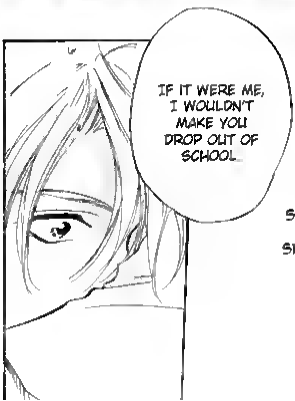
THOUGH I SAY WE WENT OUT, WE WEREN'T OFFICIALLY DATING
HE JUST WANTED MY BODY
THINGS HAPPENED, AND IT BECAME A PROBLEM... SO I LEFT SCHOOL VOLUNTARILY
SINCE I WAS LIVING AT HOME THEN, WE'D GO TO HOTELS, AND THAT'S WHERE WE WERE DISCOVERED
THAT SEMPAI, ALSO...?
I THINK HE PROBABLY GRADUATED FROM THAT SCHOOL
WE HAVEN'T TALKED SINCE WE WERE DISCOVERED
I DON'T REALLY KNOW...

SEMPAI IS NORMAL!
EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY PHYSICALLY, EVEN IF IT WAS JUST COMPASSION, HE STILL WENT OUT WITH ME...
EVEN IF HE ONLY USED ME AS AN EXCUSE TO BREAK UP WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND...
YOU HAVEN'T TALKED? NOT EVEN ONCE?
IT'S NOT THAT HE HASN'T TRIED...
HE MADE THOSE RUMORS, AND TOLD ME WILLINGLY THAT HE LIKED ME...
ISN'T IT UNFAIR THAT I MADE HIM THE TARGET OF GOSSIP?
.....
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S STUPID?
I WAS STUPID...
I DID!
YOU SAID SOMETHING LIKE, "IT'S JUST ME WHO'S GAY, IT ISN'T SEMPAI'S FAULT"...?
COULD IT BE THAT WHEN YOU LEFT YOUR OLD SCHOOL...

DON'T BEHAVE SHAMEFULLY BY GETTING JEALOUS OF THE PAST!
BECAUSE OF THAT...
I DON'T WANT TO BEHAVE LIKE THAT AGAIN
Grab
!?

..NATSU?
ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING FOUND LIKE THIS?

I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO BE SEEN MAKING OUT.
BUT THAT'S NOT BECAUSE I'M DOING SOMETHING WRONG.
I WANT TO BE WITH THE PERSON I LIKE, WITHOUT HESITATION.



I'M NOT SURE IF I'M BEING SHAMEFULLY JEALOUS, BUT—

I UNDERSTAND
I UNDERSTAND, KOUNO
EVEN IF THE SAME THING HAPPENED
I'D BE TOGETHER WITH YOU, PROPERLY.
...AND TELL YOU "LET'S DO OUR BEST"...
I'M DIFFERENT THAN THAT SEMPAI.
MY THOUGHTS AREN'T THE SAME AS HIS
I UNDERSTAND
I'D SAY, "BECAUSE I LOVE YOU."
I'D SAY, "BECAUSE WE ARE WHO WE ARE, LET'S DO OUR BEST."

I LOVE YOU.
YEAH...

I LOVE YOU.
YEAH
I..
..LOVE YOU TOO.

NATSU... I'VE DECIDED
HM?
IF IT WORKS OUT FOR HIM,
I'M GOING TO MEET WITH SEMPAI THIS WEEKEND
HUH!?
I DON'T WANT...
THIS TO DRAG ON ENDLESSLY
3-A
slide
HUH?
YOU'RE STILL HERE, SUGA?
YEAH
THAT'S TRUE
I GUESS IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN CHANGE IMMEDIATELY

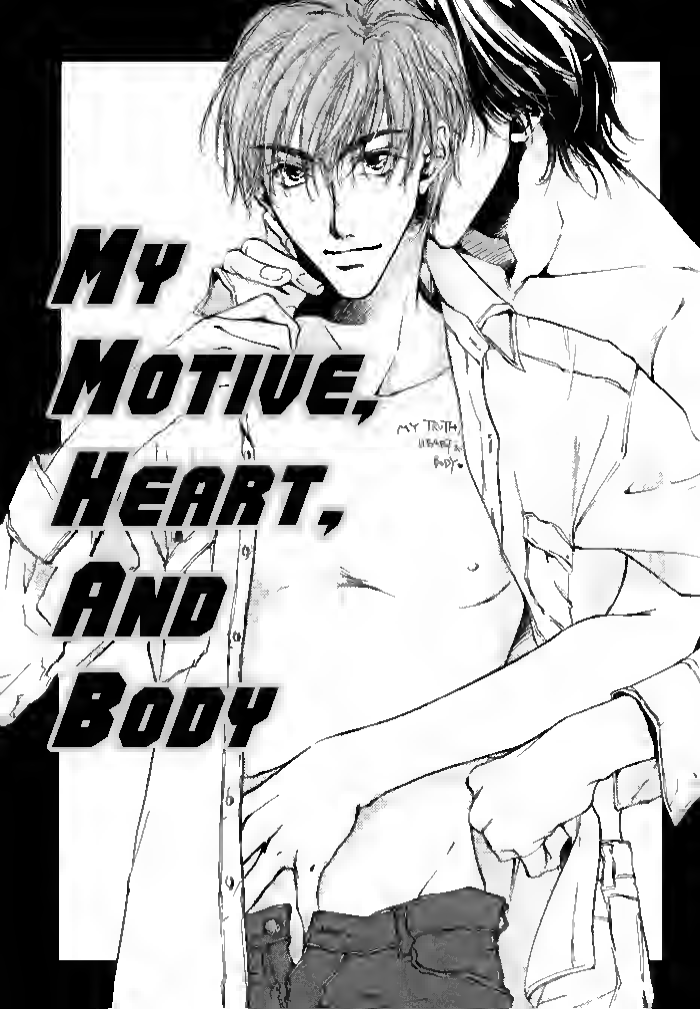
THAT'S GOOD, ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE NOT BREAKING UP.
YOU WERE ABLE TO MAKE UP WITH HIM
LIM!
THAT'S NOT IT—
NATSU...?
EVEN IF IT'S A BIT AT A TIME, ISN'T IT OK?
I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING!
Really! Really!!
<--No self-awareness
ANYHOW, WHY DID YOU—
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO UPSET ABOUT?
IF IT MAKES YOU HAPPY, ISN'T IT OK?
BECAUSE THERE AREN'T ANY CHANGES IN OUR LOVEY-DOVEY RELATIONSHIP

The Ghost That Resides in Your Heart [Last Half]

END

Ootomo Naomichi, 18 years and 11 months old.
One month ago, I fell in love with my childhood friend (who I live with), he kissed me 21 times today.
Five of those were deep kisses.
MM...
N...
And, as always, it ends up here.
But...
NN...
THUD!
NAOMICHI...
I'M AT MY LIMIT...
I WANT TO DO IT...
Huh...?

※ Current state reaffirmed
I'LL BE CAREFUL SO THAT IT DOESN'T HURT VERY MUCH... SO...
I'VE...
I'VE STUDIED A BIT ON WHAT I SHOULD DO...
I HAVEN'T DONE IT WITH A GUY UP UNTIL NOW, BUT...
EH?
UM,
UH...
② Hips stuck together (Moreover, the subtle feeling of something there)
① Stuck in this strange position
③ Somehow, his hand is on Naomichi's butt
WE SHOULDN'T ...?
UM...
THAT'S... UM...
UH...
AH
AH...
UMM... UH...
Even though it just an excuse that time, my head was completely blank.
I have diarrhea today...!!
SLAM!!!
STEP STEP STEP STEP
WOOSH!


My Motive, Heart, And Body
MY TRUTH
HEART &
BODY

NO, BUT...
HE SUDDENLY PUSHED ME DOWN, AND I WAS REALLY SURPRISED..
How Cruel...
THAT'S WHAT IT WAS, DON'T YOU THINK?
SO YOU JUST FLEW OUT OF THERE AND CAME HERE?
...AND?
Ack!
BLUNTLY
NO, IT WASN'T.
IT'S HUMAN NATURE, DON'T YOU THINK?
Up until a month ago, I was indifferent to this kind of world!!
YOU SEE, USUALLY, WHEN THE PERSON YOU LIKE PUSHES YOU DOWN,
YOU AUTOMATICALLY WRAP YOUR ARMS AROUND THEIR BACK...

DIDN'T YOU TELL HIM IT WAS OK?
YES...
YOU GAVE YOUR CONSENT BY SAYING YOU WERE A MALE COUPLE, DIDN'T YOU?
BUT YOU CAN'T SAY YOU'RE INDIFFERENT ANYMORE, CAN YOU?
IT'S ALREADY BEEN A MONTH, RIGHT?

IN THAT CASE,
HURRY UP AND GO HOME.
IF YOU KEEP RUNNING AWAY FROM THE ANTICIPATED END,
THAT'S THE PATTERN THAT WILL SHOCK HIM THE MOST
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, IF YOU DON'T TALK TO HIM PROPERLY ..
IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, DON'T RECKLESSLY PAIR UP WITH HIM...

I hadn't really intended to keep running away because I didn't want it...

But it was after I already flew out of the room.
Kei was probably hurt when he realized that.
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED BUT TO TAKE THAT BEHAVIOR AS HATE.
Intended or not, my body moved on it's own accord
It's not that I don't want it.
I like Kei, too, a bit...
It's just...
I think it startled me.
I CAN'T HELP IT. I HAVEN'T EVEN DONE IT WITH A GIRL.
AND I HAVEN'T HAD SEX BEFORE, SO I'M NOT IMMUNE
BUT IF IT'S NOT THAT, THEN IS IT BECAUSE WE'RE A MALE COUPLE? AND SINCE I WASN'T ORIGINALLY GAY...
I BET IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT... DON'T THEY SAY YOU NEED TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR IT...?

I wonder if he really thinks that I hate him
Huh?
Click
I should apologize properly, and tell him not to misunderstand me
UM...
KEI...?
ARE YOU GOING SOMEWHERE?
A BIT...
OF A HEART-BREAK TRIP...
HUH!?
I'M JUST GOING TO A FRIEND'S PLACE
I HAVE A REPORT TO DO,
SO I'M GOING TO STAY THERE SINCE WE TALKED ABOUT DOING IT TOGETHER
Thump
I'M KIDDING
UM
WAIT...

IF YOU'RE BOTHERED ABOUT WHAT JUST HAPPENED, YOU'RE MISTAKEN.
I HAVEN'T SAID YES OR NO AS TO WHETHER I WANT TO DO IT WITH YOU, KEI...
I WAS JUST REALLY SURPRISED.
SO NEXT TIME I WANT TO BE PREPARED
DOING THAT, IF I'M ABLE TO BE RESOLUTE...
... NAOMI-CHI.

I DON'T THINK THAT I'M FORCING MYSELF ONTO YOU.
I'M HAPPY, AND THOUGH I ALSO THINK, "I WANT TO DO IT",
IF "PREPARATION" IS NECESSARY, IT'S STILL TOO EARLY.
I... PLAN ON WAITING UNTIL YOU TRULY WANT TO DO IT.

THOUGH I SAY THAT I DON'T HAVE THE SELF-CONFIDENCE TO PERFECTLY RESTRAIN MYSELF, SO I THINK I WANT TO COOL MY HEAD.
IT'S NOT AN EXCUSE THAT I HAVE A REPORT.
HONESTLY, THE DEADLINE IS CLOSE WHEN I FINISH IT, I'LL COME HOME.
Oh!
SEE YA
SLAM
.....
Shit... I don't understand.

PUNCH!
IT PISSES ME OFF!
Can a guy like that understand the feelings of someone who's been a virgin for 19 years..?
Now that I think about it, he's always had a girlfriend up until he confessed to me.
I can't even just naturally kiss him on the brow!
IT PISSES ME OFF!
IT PISSES ME OFF!
PUNCH!
PUNCH!
PUNCH!
He's punching Kai's head
IT PISSES ME OFF!
I'm sorry I freeze up even now, if we make out just a little!
Even if it's with the necessary preparations, I already think it's ok to have sex with a guy.
Isn't that sufficient progress...!?
Or does he not think that's enough!?
Huh!?

DOES HE WANT TO MAKE ME SAY "EMBRACE ME"!?
SULK
SULK
GRR
That's probably it...
Eventually, those hands
WILL BE TELLING ME THAT THEY WANT TO EMBRACE ME.
Though I like kissing Kei.
It's not that I don't feel that extent of desire for him
KEI IS ALWAYS THE ONE WHO INITIATES THE KISSES
But Kei is always acting aroused.
I guess, somehow he feels charmed by me.
But, you know
It's not like I have thin hands. My hands are ragged
My abdominal muscles are fissured and I'm not really slender either
Naomi-chi
When you say that, are you using a woman's "standards"?
Yeah

I like you because you are who you are
If it wasn't you, I wouldn't be interested
What else is there to compare myself to?
Maybe... Not in appearance...
No, of course I like the way you look, but...
Agreed to it, but effective enough
I wonder if I don't understand it...?
What am I saying...
Sex with a male couple...?
I WONDER IF IT HURTS... WELL, SINCE HE'D BE ENTERING MY ASS, IT'D HURT...
AH
BUT, WAIT... BEFORE, IT WAS EI-CHAN'S VOICE THAT WE COULD HEAR FROM NEXT DOOR... BECAUSE OF THAT, MAYBE IT DIDN'T...?
WHAT THE HELL AM I THINKING ABOUT!?
DO I WANT TO TEST IT OUT MYSELF!? ISN'T THAT JUST BEING PERVERTED!?
RUSTLE
ACTUALLY IT SOUNDED LIKE IT WAS REALLY GOOD...

Unexpectedly it's probably better that Kei left..
In this state, I'd probably hurt him again.
I don't want to do that..
Hm?
That was quick. Is the report already finished?
I really can't hold out any longer
Huh? Kei came home?
Hold out..?
Wait.. why are you taking your clothes off!?
What!?
Naomichi
I'm at my limit..
We've already been like this for a month..
Naomichi

I want to do it
How come you're suddenly stark naked!?
A DREAM...?
OF COURSE!
AND... AND YET...
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT... YOU MEAN, KEI, NAKED...? THAT SORT OF THING, THIS LATE IN THE GAME... DISGUSTING, BUT LOOK. A HEALTHY MALE WILL GET AN ERECTION 3 OR 4 TIMES WHILE SLEEPING... IT'S A NATU- RAL OCCURRENCE TO GET ONE IN THE MORNING...
FIRST OFF, TO THE BATH- ROOM...

PANIC
SINCE KEI'S BEEN WAKING ME UP LATELY...
SHIT... I FORGOT TO SET THE ALARM CLOCK!
11:00!?
No way!!
PANIC
Something's strange
The Pizza!!
Ootomo-kun!
I'M OFF TO MAKE A DELIVERY
I had that sort of dream and got an erection—
Bossy lady
AH, OOTOMO-KUN, DIDN'T I ASK YOU TO CHANGE SHIFTS WITH IIDA-KUN?
RUSH
It's Kei's fault.
CLICK
Somehow, my mood's all messed up...
I EVEN GAVE THE WRONG CHANGE...
Wobble
Wobble
It seems normal, even when I'm in this room
But as always,
FLASH

Creak
It's too normal, so there's a lingering uneasiness
We've become excessively informal
AH— SOME- HOW—
IT SMELLS LIKE KEI
It's Kei's hand, of course

Breathe
.....

Click
How does he want to do it..?
What it is that Kei wants to do to me..?

"I want to do it"..?
Naomi Chi—

FU...
N...
What sort of.
What sort of expression would he make..?
* bubbles = gually blah
HAA...
KU...
N...!
AREN'T I STUPID..?
ALL THAT STUFF I SAID YESTERDAY AND TODAY THIS TO TOP IT OFF..

WHY DID I SAY ALL OF THAT ?
Even if I say I m not bothered at all anymore, thats not it..
My body is stupidly honsst.
tissue
KEI...
I MISS YOU...
AH, HELLO
THIS IS OOTOMO..
I'M SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT A BIT OF A FEVER...
CAN I TAKE A DAY OFF?
YES...
I'M SORRY... THANKS

AH, NO IT'S NOT.
RIGHT AFTER I BATHED LAST NIGHT, I DID IT AND DOZED OFF, SO MAYBE THAT'S WHY...
...
IS THIS PUNISHMENT FOR JACKING OFF IN KEI'S BED FOR THREE DAYS...?
HA
38.0℃
TERUMO

FLOP
AH, GEEZ! STOP IT! JUST GO TO SLEEP AND GET BETTER!!
NO MATTER WHAT IT WAS,
IT'S TOO SHAME-FUL...
Creak...

That's ok, though .
I wonder what it is
It's not like I'm collecting them
Another one of those dreams I've had lately ?
Him ? What's that .?
Step
Step
Anyhow, it's not like if I open my eyes, Ker will have returned.

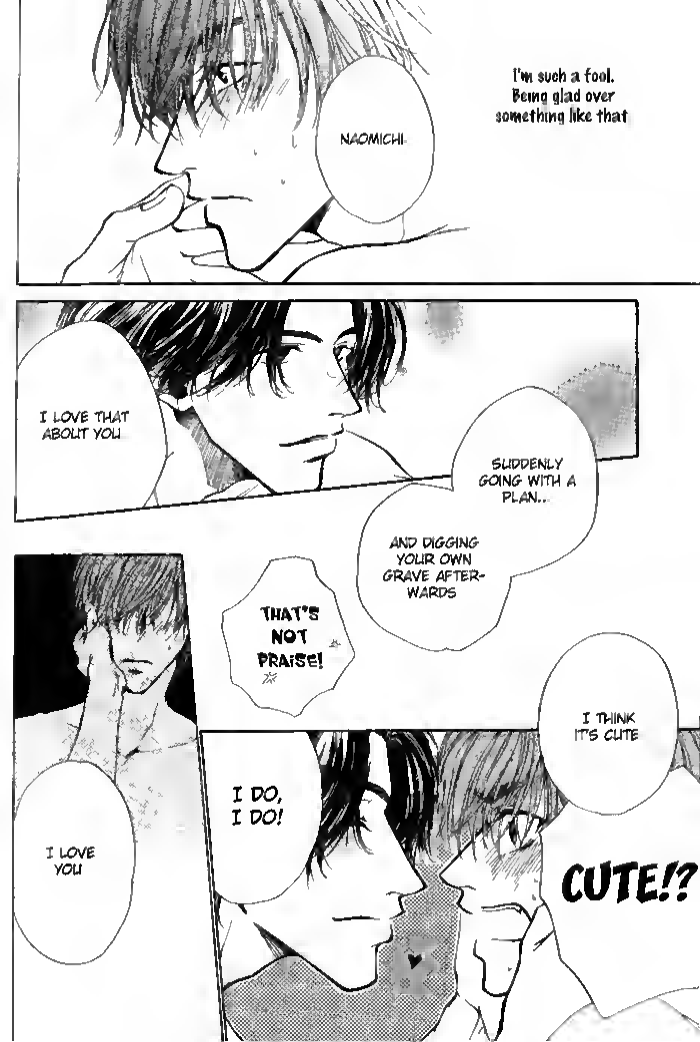
AH... SORRY
DID I WAKE YOU?
EH...? KE!??
WHY...
UM, I CAME BACK A BIT TO GET A BOOK...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, ARE YOU OK? HOW LONG HAVE YOU HAD A FEVER?
...PROPER MEDI-
UWAH...

HUH?
NAO..?
I WANT TO DO IT WITH YOU
I SERIOUSLY, REALLY WANT TO DO IT.
I WANT TO DO IT
38 DEGREES DOESN'T MAKE YOU SUDDENLY GET AN ERECTION!!
THE FEVER
IS THAT WHY YOU'RE LIKE THIS..?
I REALLY MISSED YOU!
I WAS THINKING ABOUT DOING IT!
FOR THREE DAYS, GOING ALL THE WAY!

I'M SERIOUS!
I'VE SAID IT, AND IF YOU TELL ME YOU WON'T BECAUSE OF MY FEVER, I'M GOING TO HIT YOU!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
IF YOU DON'T FACE THIS RESPONSIBILITY, THEN WHAT AM I GOING TO DO!?
THIS LATE... SAYING YOU DON'T WANT TO....
YOU WON'T DO THAT, RIGHT...?

AH...
HUH?
WHA... WHAT!?
DON'T STARE AT ME...
.....
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE? WHAT KIND OF GUESSES DO YOU HAVE?
HEY
YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO DO THIS UNTIL THE END, RIGHT?
UM
WELL, THAT'S...
UH...
Men are practical in their naiveté.

But, it seems if you do it with a partner, your mood would drop with a thunk afterwards
No matter what it's like, it's freedom
IT... IT'S OK! I'M SORRY
AH...
... YOU'RE ASKING? SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
IF I ASK MYSELF WHAT I GUESS IT'LL FEEL LIKE...
I CAN'T REALLY ANSWER...
BUT... WELL, IF I ASK HOW YOU'D LIKE TO DO IT...
mutter
I couldn't muttn say but really, so...
Chuckle
Nothing's changed
With these pitiful expressions, Kei and I are the same


I'm such a fool.
Being glad over
something like that
NAOMICHI
I LOVE THAT
ABOUT YOU
SUDDENLY
GOING WITH A
PLAN...
AND DIGGING
YOUR OWN
GRAVE AFTER-
WARDS
THAT'S
NOT
PRAISE!
I THINK
IT'S CUTE
I DO,
I DO!
I LOVE
YOU
CUTE!?

N...
NAO...
NAOMICHI...
When the person you like pushes you down, you automatically wrap your arms around their back...It's human nature, don't you think?
Ei-chan... What you said was right.

Exposed lust
AH
U
AH
Letting out excited voices
Taking in ragged breaths
AH WAIT CRAP
Being sweaty
AH
KEI
Those sorts of body reactions and thinking that I want to do it
AH……
If you ask what the source is, it's all just related to the feelings of love

More than any guesses that would compare to
NAO...
RELAX...
I'M ENTERING...
Aroused
NN...
How much will it hurt, and what will happen to my fever... Those things don't matter anymore.
AH...
MM...
HAA...

...were both extremely aroused
I, with Kei...
Kei, with me...
With just "I love you"...
HA...
HA...
The dis-composed Kei...
NN...
HA...
Me, also discomposed...
AH...
AH
HA...
AH...
KEI...
AH...
HA
HA
NAO...

I wonder if it's strange to feel happy seeing this sort of expression

And so, doing it this way–
I wrap my arms around his shoulders

I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT! HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK HE HAS A FEVER!?
IT'S 38.5 DEGREES! 38.5 DEGREES!
It went up
EXCESSIVE CARE?
THAT'S WHY.
YEAH, I KNOW SORRY
WHEN I CAME BACK, I SLEPT OVER HERE BECAUSE MY ROOMMATE HAD A FEVER.
I COULDN'T HAVE JUST LEFT HIM ALONE, RIGHT?
FIRST OFF, I ONLY WANTED TO COME BACK HERE ONCE TO GET SOMETHING.
I'M BRINGING THE BOOK LIKE I SAID I WOULD, BUT IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
NO? THEN, LATER.
bleep

I'M SORRY, KEI. IT'S MY FAULT.
I SAID IT'S NOT REALLY YOUR FAULT. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
HUH? YEAH. I SAID IT'S OK.
BUT YOU HAVEN'T FINISHED YOUR REPORT YET, RIGHT?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, IT'S ALMOST DONE.
BUT IN RETURN FOR LETTING ME STAY OVER, I SAID I'D HELP HIM OUT WITH HIS REPORT.
IT'S BEGINNING TO SEEM LIKE A ONE TIME THING, THOUGH.
CON-VERSELY, IT'S A GOOD THING.
BE-SIDES...
YOUR FEVER WENT UP 5 DEGREES WHILE I WAS HERE.
WELL, YEAH...
I was the one who told you that, though.

RUSTLE RUSTLE
HAVE YOU EATEN? I'LL GO BUY SOMETHING FOR YOU.
AH, SINCE YOU HAVE A FEVER, SHOULD I GET A CAN OF PEACHES?
MAYBE SOMETHING TO DRINK...
YEAH, YEAH.
I'LL BE BACK AT 7
BE GOOD AND SLEEP.
SLAM

WELL, IT'S OK.
SOMEHOW, I'M REFRESHED, TOO
... PLAYING AND THEN TUCKING ME IN
IF HE GOES LIKE THAT, THEY'LL FIGURE IT OUT. IDIOT.
Has just experienced sex, for the first time in his life.
Ootomo Naomichi, who will be 19 years old in just a bit.
The visitation
I got laid!
Congrats on that

My Motive, Heart and Body

END

In This Little Apartment

It's spring

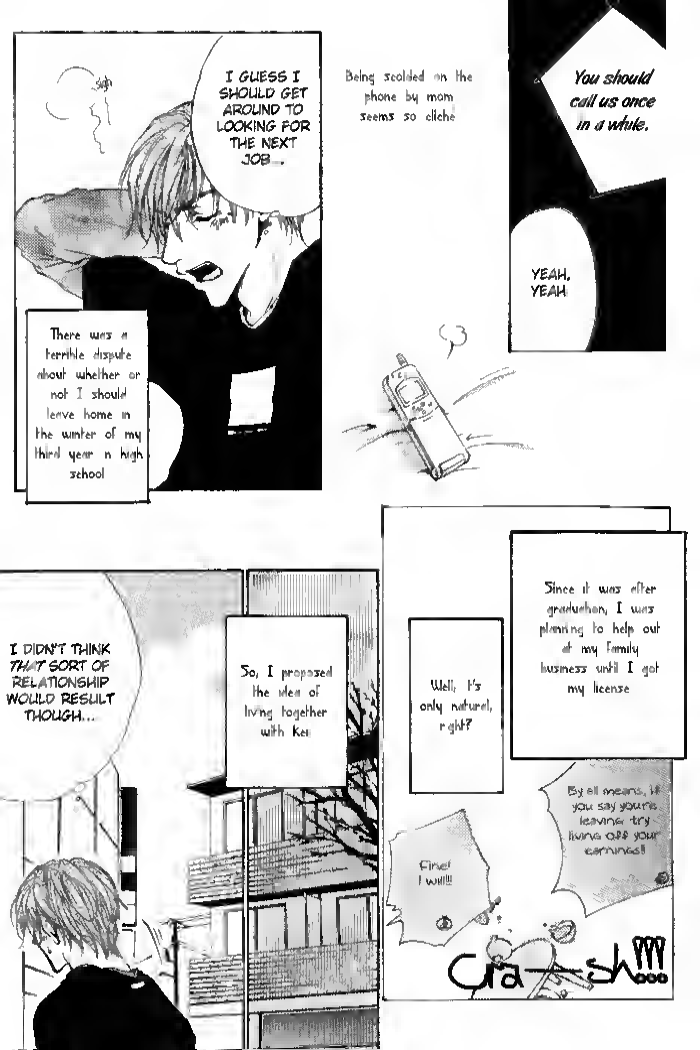
And so, It could be said that I'm—
What the heck are you doing!?

It seems that our neighbor and his boyfriend recently graduated

Long ago, Kei decided we should drive during the short time we had for spring break, so we entered a training course
The next allocation of cars.
Ca #3
Car #5
Ca #6

Currently completely unemployed.
WHAT AM I DOING?
I HAVE FREE TIME
That's because you left home without any major purpose.
That's what got you this way!
You really shouldn't have any free time!!
I LEFT MY LAST JOB THREE DAYS AGO
I'M TAKING A BREAK RIGHT NOW
Oh is that so? So when your break time is over, you'll start another job?
YEAH, I WILL

Talking like that... you're just making an excuse for the people who have experience finding jobs for others.
You say this is an important study of occupations...
... aren't you just changing part-time jobs right now?
I'VE CHANGED OCCUPATION TYPES THREE TIMES, SO ISN'T IT A LEGITIMATE STUDY OF OCCUPATIONS?
Yuki: Invading my heart.
"Yamamuro-kun" - Yamamuro Kei
Are you getting along with Yamamuro-kun?
I AM
mean that in various ways.
Well, I guess it's ok if you're putting effort into it.
Look, my point is, changing jobs like that...
If you were at home, you'd have a proper job...
AH, I AM, I AM.
Are you listening to me!?


I GUESS I SHOULD GET AROUND TO LOOKING FOR THE NEXT JOB...
sigh
There was a terrible dispute about whether or not I should leave home in the winter of my third year in high school
Being scolded on the phone by mom seems so cliché
You should call us once in a while.
YEAH, YEAH
I DIDN'T THINK THAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP WOULD RESULT THOUGH...
So, I proposed the idea of living together with Kei
Well, it's only natural, right?
Since it was after graduation, I was planning to help out at my family business until I got my license
By all means, if you say you're leaving, try living off your earnings!!
Fine! I will!!!
Crash!!!

2DK. A two-room apartment
Bedroom and living room with kitchen
WELL, OUR PLACE HAS BECOME A LITTLE CRAMPED...
2DK?
IF WE WERE TO MOVE, IT WOULD TAKE MONEY... HMM...
BUT, YOU KNOW... RIGHT NOW IT ONLY COSTS 30,000 YEN EACH
HUH?
HUH?

NAH...
THAT'S NOT REALLY IT...
WHAT? YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A PLACE?
AREN'T YOU EI-CHAN'S BOYFRIEND?
AH!
You surprised me!
AH...
CHINTA

I WAS JUST THINKING IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD LIVE TOGETHER..
IN FOUR MONTHS,
WE'LL SPLIT UP IN BOTH DIRECTION AND THE SCHOOLS THAT WE GO TO.
YEAH... DIFFERENT COLLEGE AND MAJORS, RIGHT?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WOULD LIVE TOGETHER WHEN YOU GRADUATED.
NO CAN DO
THERE'RE TOO MANY PLACES I CAN COMMUTE TO FROM HOME.
EVEN IF I COULD PERSUADE MY PARENTS..

KOUNO WELL...
WHY ARE YOU HESITATING?
DID YOU HAVE A FIGHT OR SOMETHING?
HUH? NOT AT ALL.
We're lovey dovey!♥
smile
AH
CRAP... KOUNO'S PROBABLY ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE STATION.
I totally don't get the guy.

SEE YA THEN! THANKS FOR THE COFFEE!
NAH, HE WENT TO MEET SOMEONE
YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT HE WENT BACK HOME?
AN APPOINTMENT?
Oh. Thanks. Here
YEAH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

FWIP
PAUSE

FOOD?

I KINDA DECIDED TO RETURN HOME...
BUT... WHY?
IF YOU'RE GIVING IT AWAY, I'LL TAKE IT.
"DECIDED"?

WELL... ONCE THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IS OVER, IT'S A GOOD PLACE TO LEAVE OFF..
AND I WONDERED IF I SHOULD GO BACK HOME, JUST ONCE...
HUH? YOU DIDN'T GO HOME DURING NEW YEAR'S?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
DIDN'T WE MEET EACH OTHER WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO YOUR TEMPORARY NEW YEAR'S EVE JOB?
OH YEAH
Here you

Though I don't know the details...
For Ei-chan,
I think there's a lot of meaning in returning home.
You're slow!

I'm sorry.
And, the meaning...
That guy knows what it is
Therefore
He's waiting.
CHINTAI

Without hurrying him or twisting his arm...
He's waiting for him to gradually change.
Even when he's impatient or uneasy...

Nevertheless...

I HAVE THINGS I HAVE TO GIVE
SOUVENIRS CAN WAIT UNTIL LATER.
EVEN THOUGH I GOT YOU SOMETHING YOU WANTED..
IS THAT OK?
NATSU
CUT IT OUT AND LET GO
ISN'T IT OK? IT'S BEEN SO LONG
SOMETHING I WANTED?
IF YOU SAY YOU DON'T WANT IT,
IT WON'T STOP ME FROM GIVING IT TO YOU...
UM...

A DUPLICATE KEY!?
SERIOUSLY!?
YOU MADE THIS FOR ME?
I SAID I WAS GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE, AND MY MOTHER FIGURED IT OUT...
I DIDN'T TELL HER THE DETAILS, BUT...
JUST THAT IT WAS A CLASSMATE
...I'M SORRY
WITHOUT THINKING...

WHAT'S WITH THAT!?
THANK YOU...
I'LL KEEP IT CLOSE TO ME
WELL,
IT'S NOT LIKE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER TO SAY YOUR PARTNER WAS ME...
DON'T LOSE IT..

Double meaning. He's talking about more himself than the key... "Don't get rid of me."

I WON'T.
CLICK SLAM
I'm BACK!
!
fwip
fwip
fwip
fwip

KEI...
WHAT? AREN'T YOU EARLY?
SECOND YEAR COMPLETE!

OH! YOU PASSED THEM ALL!
I GUESS.
I CAN'T RELAX UNTIL I GET THE REPORT THOUGH.

HM?
LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT JOB?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NEXT? SOMETHING LONG-TERM?
HMM...
HMM
I STILL HAVEN'T QUITE DECIDED.
FOR A GUY LIKE YOU WHO'S MASTERED THESE STRANGE SKILLS, WOULDN'T THAT BE OK?
IT'S NOT THAT I'M SAYING YOU LACK ABILITY, BUT...
I THINK THAT YOU CAN DO WELL ENOUGH IF YOU TRY TO.
KEI...
HM?

Chu
Chu
WHAT?
ALL OF A SUDDEN ...

I'm always thinking like this, and being influenced by the partner I like.

Now, we're here. In this room.

But, because we've been doing things this way.

Enveloped in this environment, I think I can endure troubles as tall as mountains.

Just like my mother said, it isn't that I left home with some major purpose.

But the ways things are now, I still haven't discovered that purpose.

Nevertheless, I—

Eventually, I won't regret it

EI-CHAN'S PROBABLY ALREADY GOTTEN HOME.

I WASN'T ABLE TO THANK HIM THE OTHER DAY, AND THOUGHT WE COULD CELEBRATE HIS GRADUATION

THE BAR?

CLICK

OH, HE CAME BACK
MIDDAY TODAY,
I BUMPED INTO HIS BOYFRIEND WHILE HE WAS LEAVING TO MEET HIM AT THE STATION
MOST LIKELY, HE'S STILL HERE
DING DONG
DING DONG
DING DONG
HUH? HOW ODD...
DING
DING
WHY?
MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY AGAIN NEXT TIME.
CLICK
YES?
Why..?
Well, that is...

WELL,
YOU KNOW HOW YOU GAVE US THAT STUFF THE OTHER DAY?
HOW ABOUT WE GO TO OUT DINNER?
I WASN'T ABLE TO THANK YOU OR CONGR-TULATE YOU ON YOUR GRADUATION.
AH HA HA SORRY ABOUT THAT. WHAT'S UP?
WHAT, YOU'RE HERE...
HURRY UP AND COME OUT, GEEZ.
Our friend!
UM...
WELL.... ER....
!!
GRAB

WAIT TEN MINUTES.
SLAM!!

I'M SORRY, I'M AT MY LIMIT...
WAIT NATSU...
AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

BLU
SHL
Wrong! silly.
Just realized
Nn...
Don't...
Ah...

LATER

NATSU
UH... WELL...
DON'T WORRY... HEARING YOU NOW,
IT COULDN'T BE HELPED!
I WAS HOLDING IT IN FOR TOO LONG...
THAT'S...

Even when we become impatient or uneasy

We, in those small rooms

Are in love.

In This Little Apartment
END

Cross my heart
and hope to die
Summer's here, no school,
no teachers, no homework. Just
a whole lot of you!
from the BLiss staff